

Ross Leffler Training School Complex,
Classroom Building
Snyder Township
Brockway vicinity
Jefferson County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5361-B

HABS
PA,
33-BROWA.V,
18-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROSS LEFFLER TRAINING SCHOOL COMPLEX

CLASSROOM BUILDING

HABS No. PA-5361-B

HABS
PA,
33-BROWA V,
1B-

Location: Snyder Township, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania, five miles northwest of the town of Brockway via S.R. 1010.

U.S.G.S. Munderf, PA Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator
Coordinates: 17.457355.677760

Present Owner: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Game Commission
P. O. Box 1567
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1567

Present Occupant: Vacant - Building will be demolished in 1987. Last Owner-Occupant - Pennsylvania Game Commission. Building used as a Conservation Officer Training School.

Significance: The Ross Leffler Training School Complex - Classroom Building was constructed in 1941 and used as a classroom/dormitory facility. This building was a part of the Ross Leffler Training School Complex used to train conservation officers in law enforcement techniques, land management activities, and wildlife biology. This building served as a full-time training facility until February 8, 1986 when the 19th Class of 25 conservation officers graduated.

PART 1. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: 1941. The building was constructed by members of the 3rd training class who were carpenters, plumbers, painters, etc., before entering the school. The construction was started in the spring of 1941 and was completed and dedicated in August 1941.
2. Designer: Original plans were drawn by Clarence Weaver, Chief Construction Engineer, Pennsylvania Game Commission, in January 1941.
3. Original and Subsequent Owners: Following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. Reference is to the County Recorder of Deeds Office, Brookville, Pennsylvania.

1909 General Warranty Deed, February 19, 1909, recorded in Deed Book Volume 119, p. 617, R.T. Buzard and Nell B. Buzard, his wife; F.K. Bradshaw and Jean B. Bradshaw, his wife; E.K. Bradshaw, R.T. Buzard and Gertrude B. Sandt,
To
Meredith R. Marshall

1930 Deed, September 25, 1930, recorded in Deed Book Volume 194, p. 301, Meredith R. Marshall,
To
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

4. Builders: Members of the 3rd training class of 1941-42. There were 24 students: J.A. Brown, J.L. Budd, G.H. Burdick, H.W. Defina, J.L. DeLong, C.W. Dinger, J.P. Eicholtz, D.H. Fackler, P.L. Faylor, J.I. Hendricks, J.S. Kepner, H.C. Korman, G.W. Miller, L.D. Mostoller, F.L. Myers, W.R. Overturf, T.A. Reynolds, E.R. Richards, C.L. Ruth, M.L. Shaffer, L.E. Shaeffer, E.D. Simpson, A.T. Studholme, R.W. Trexler.
5. Suppliers: Unknown. No records of purchase of materials can be found.

6. Original plans and construction: The structure is a rectangular, two-story, concrete reinforced, red clay tile structure with outside finished in stucco. The first floor plan shows an open classroom with an adjacent library on the west facing side. An identical room arrangement is utilized on the second floor with an open dormitory on the east facing side and lavatory/shower on the west facing side.
7. Alterations and additions: At undetermined dates, various improvements were made to the building. Improvements included such items as a central heating system to replace the brick heatolater fireplace and fluorescent lighting in all rooms.

B. Historical Context:

The Ross Leffler Training School Complex - Classroom Building was constructed in 1941 by members of the 3rd Training Class. The building was used as a classroom/dormitory to expand the training capabilities of the school. The building was used as a full-time training facility until February 8, 1986 when the 19th Class of 25 conservation officers graduated.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: The building is a two-story, stucco finish, concrete reinforced, red clay tile structure with a gable roof and irregular window arrangement.
2. Condition of the fabric: All aspects of the building are in good condition.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The two-story building is rectangular in shape, 49'0" across and 24'0" deep, featuring a 4'0" across and 16'6" deep projection designed as a stairwell for a fire escape.
2. Foundation: Concrete reinforced stone construction, 18" thick both below and above grade.

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3. Wall construction: Exterior walls are concrete reinforced, red clay tile construction with stucco finish.
4. Structural system; framing: Exterior walls and major partition walls are concrete reinforced red clay tile, load bearing. Floor joists are full 2 x 10's - 16" on center. Roof rafters are full 2 x 6's - 16" on center.

C. Description of Interior

1. Floor Plans:

- a. Basement: A finished basement lies under the library and stairway areas indicated in the sketch plan. The basement measures 11'0" wide by 24'0" long and is constructed of concrete reinforced stone walls with a poured concrete floor. A 3'0" high crawl space lies under the remainder of the building.
- b. First Floor: Sketch plan is on page 7 of this section.
- c. Second Floor: Sketch plan is on page 8 of this section.

2. Stairways: Two stairways are located within the building; one between the classroom and library and the other in a 4'0" wide by 16'6" offset on the east facing end of the building. Both staircases are of wooden construction with wooden railings. A third stairway is located outside the building on the south facing wall. This stairway was used to access the basement and is of concrete construction.
3. Flooring: Material on first and second floors is 12" x 12" asphalt tile, light gray in color.
4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: First and second floor walls are dry-wall construction painted creme color. Ceilings on both floors are 2'0" by 3'0" panels painted creme color.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: Exterior doors are 33" wide by 7'0" high, wooden construction, painted brown outside, creme inside. Interior doors are 33" wide by 7'0" high, wood construction, painted creme. All trim in doorways and doors are of modern design and construction.

b. Windows: All window trim is of modern design and construction.

6. Decorative Features and Trim: A fireplace is located on the first floor on the north facing wall. The fireplace is of red brick construction with a wooden mantle.

7. Hardware: All hardware is of modern design and manufacture.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating: The original heating system was a red brick fireplace located on the first floor. Existing system is a modern gas-fired boiler.

b. Lighting: All lighting fixtures are modern 4 bulb, 18" wide by 4'0" long fluorescent units.

c. Plumbing: All plumbing located in the lavatory is of modern design and construction.

9. Original Furnishings: No original furnishings are known to exist.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

1. Pennsylvania Game News, April 1986 issue.
2. Game News Treasury, Author: Pennsylvania Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 1979.
3. Samuel Volpe, Deputy Game Protector, R.D. 1, Kearney Road, Brockway, Pennsylvania 15824, Interview.
4. Charles F. Haag, Museum Director, Taylor Memorial, 1115 Pershing Avenue, Brockway, Pennsylvania 15824, Interview.
5. Richard D. Furry, Game School Superintendent, P. O. Box 223, R.D. 1, Brockway, Pennsylvania 15824, Interview.
6. Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Ross Leffler Training School Complex - Classroom Building will be replaced by the construction of a new headquarters/training facility located at Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Classroom Building did not conform to O.S.H.A. nor Bureau of Labor and Industry health and safety standards for a structure that domiciles people for an extended period of time. In addition, no occupancy permit was ever issued. Renovations to a 46 year old building to comply with present standards were determined to be too costly.

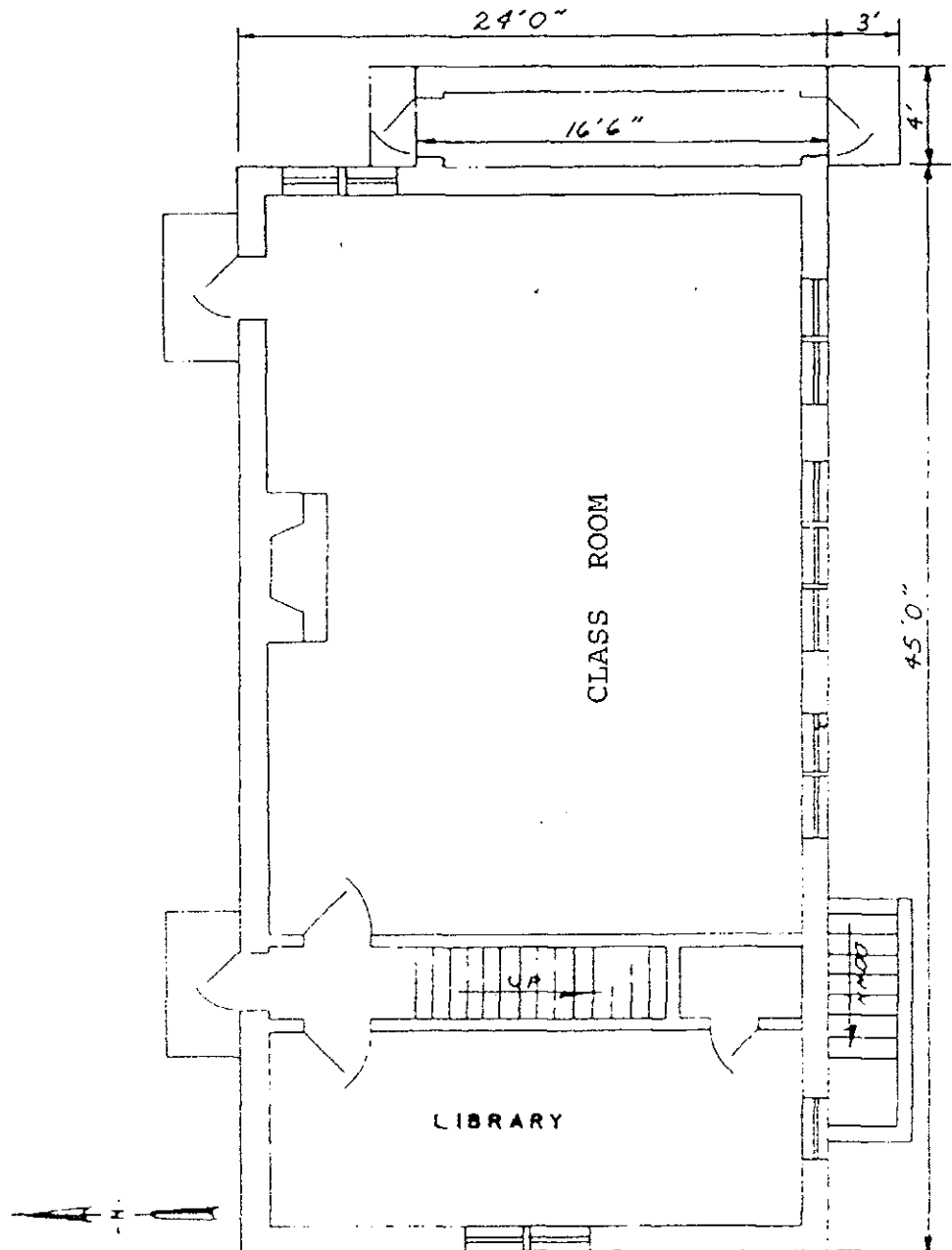
Prepared by: Roger L. Lehman

Title: Chief, Federal-State Coordination Division

Affiliation: Pennsylvania Game Commission
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Date: June 15, 1987

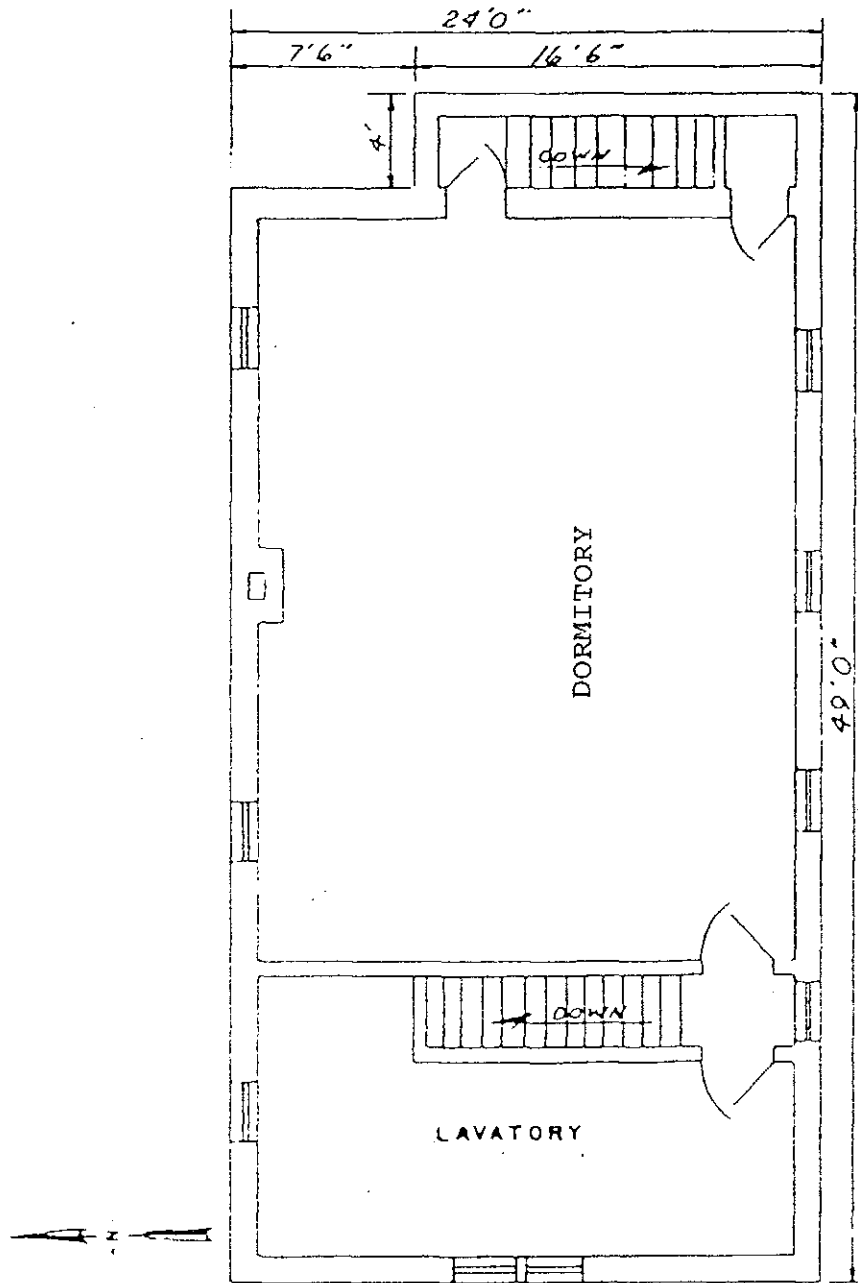
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CLASSROOM BUILDING
FIRST FLOOR

SKETCH DRAWN 6-3-87

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CLASSROOM BUILDING
SECOND FLOOR

SKETCH DRAWN 6-3-57